

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, June 21, at 9:30 a.m. in SD-106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider national energy policy with respect to fuel specifications and infrastructure constraints and their impacts on energy supply and price, (Part II).

Those wishing to submit written statements should address them to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Shirley Neff at 202/224-4103.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the hearing previously scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 15 9:30 a.m., in room SD-106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building will now start at 9 a.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on S. 764, a bill to direct the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to impose just and reasonable load-differentiated demand rates or cost-of-service based rates on sales by public utilities of electric energy at wholesale in the western energy market, and for other purposes; and sections 508-510 (relating to wholesale electricity rates in the western energy market, natural gas rates in California, and the sale price of bundled natural gas transactions) of S. 597, the Comprehensive and Balanced Energy Policy Act of 2001.

For further information please contact Leon Lowery or Jonathan Black at 202/224-4103.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
MEET

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to hold a markup on the nomination of Gordon H. Mansfield to be Assistant Secretary for Congressional Affairs in the Department of Veterans Affairs, followed by a hearing on "The Looming Nurse Shortage: Impact on the Department of Veterans Affairs."

The Committee will meet on Thursday, June 14, 2001, at 10 a.m., in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Special Com-

mittee on Aging be authorized to meet on Thursday, June 14, 2001, from 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m., in Dirksen 562 for the purpose of conducting a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Governmental Affairs Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 14, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., for a hearing entitled "Cross Border Fraud: Scams Know No Boundaries."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to allow Lisa Ekman, my policy fellow, floor privileges for the duration of the debate on S. 1.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Spencer Stelljes, an intern in my office, be granted floor privileges during the remainder of the debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Beth Cameron, a fellow on Senator KENNEDY's staff, be granted floor privileges.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KYL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent for Rebecca Papoff of my staff to be given the privilege of the floor for the duration of the Helms amendment on the Boy Scouts of America.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE
MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, before I begin with the wrap-up items, I announce that all the matters that I am about to propose have been cleared on the Republican side.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 72, 97, and 107; that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, that any statements thereon be printed in the RECORD, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate return to legislative session.

Before the Chair rules on this request, I want to add that we are pre-

pared to clear four Treasury Department nominations on the calendar, as well as one military promotion. The remaining two nominations will require floor time and rollcall votes. We are working on those agreements. I simply note that because I have said from the very beginning of my tenure as majority leader that I am prepared to move nominations forward. We would have been prepared to move virtually all but two nominations.

As I understand it, there are objections to the four Treasury Department nominations on the Republican side, as well as an objection to one military promotion. Given those objections, clearly we are not prepared to move to them today. It is not as a result of any particular objection on our side. We are prepared to move to them just as soon as the Republican matters can be resolved. I ask for their consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations were considered and confirmed as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Charles A. James, Jr., of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

James Laurence Connaughton, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Council on Environmental Quality.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Stephen L. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator for Toxic Substances of the Environmental Protection Agency.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

COMMENDING ASSISTANT
SECRETARY SHARON ZELASKA

Mr. DASCHLE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 110 submitted by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 110) relating to the retirement of Sharon A. Zelaska, Assistant Secretary of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LOTT. Madam President, today I rise to pay tribute to Sharon Zelaska, who is retiring after serving for over 4 years in the demanding position of Assistant Secretary of the Senate, and who has contributed so much to the efficient operations of the Senate over those years.

She arrived in 1997, a stranger to the Senate but not to Capitol Hill, having worked for a dozen years previously as executive assistant to then Representative Jack Kemp. As Assistant Secretary she has been responsible for the day-to-day operations of the office of